

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1-11. (Cancelled)

12. (New) A component mounting apparatus for mounting fed components onto a board, comprising:

one head unit which has a component holding member for holding one of the components and which is selected from among a plurality of types of head units according to types of the fed components;

a head moving unit which has a head fitting portion onto which the selected one head unit is removably loaded, for moving the head unit loaded on the head fitting portion in a direction extending generally along a surface of the board; and

a head control unit which is provided for each of the head units, for controlling component mounting operation by a head unit corresponding to the loaded head unit, wherein

the plurality of types of head units include a component mounting head for mounting one of the components onto the board,

the component mounting head comprising:

the component holding member for releasably holding one of the components;

an up/down drive unit for moving up and down the component holding member; and

a support member which is a member for up/down movably supporting the

component holding member and supporting the up/down drive unit and the head control unit and which is releasably fixed to the head fitting portion of the head moving unit, and wherein

a first support center for supporting the up/down drive unit by the support member and a second support center for supporting the component holding member by the support member are positioned so that a distance in the direction extending generally along the surface of the board between a fixation center of the support member for fixing the head moving unit to the head fitting portion and said first support center becomes smaller than a distance in said direction between said fixation center and said second support center, and

the head control unit is positioned on one side of said first support center opposite in said direction to a side on which said second support center is positioned.

13.(New) The component mounting apparatus as defined in Claim 12, wherein the support member has a generally box-like shape, and the up/down drive unit and the head control unit are disposed inside the box-like shaped support member while the component holding member is disposed outside thereof,

part of the support member of the generally box-like shape is disposed between the first support center and the second support center, where the up/down drive unit and the component holding member are supported in common by said part of the support member.